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Parliament. By SIR COURTENAY ILBERT. (New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1911. Pp. 256.)

This book is a popular discussion of the history, constitution, and practice of Parliament, by a recognized authority upon that subject. The author is Clerk of the House of Commons and has written *Legislative Methods and Forms* and other well-known scholarly works. The present book is one of the volumes in the "Home University Library of Modern Knowledge" and makes no claim to original research. Some parts of it have been taken from the author's more comprehensive book mentioned above. It will, however, serve a good purpose in popularizing an important and timely subject.

The book is well written and, on the whole, interesting. It should not be judged by its early chapters. The first two chapters are historical in character and while important they do not hold the attention of the reader as the succeeding chapters do. The book is particularly strong in explaining the details of parliamentary procedure. Probably no one is better qualified to write on this subject than the author of this book.

The book is exceedingly fair and impartial in its treatment of controverted questions. It is really almost too non-committal. For example, the reference to the rejection of the Finance Bill in 1909 (p. 208-9) is more diplomatic than satisfying.

The writer is also at times inclined to take too much for granted. The class of readers to which the book will appeal, in the United States at least, will not be familiar with some of the terms used. For example, the term "devolution" is used (p. 138) without adequate explanation.

The book is clear and strong in tracing the origins of institutions and practices and maintains an admirable balance throughout between history and present practice. The last chapter is a good piece of analysis and comparison. The bibliography, though brief, is well selected. The index is unsatisfactory.

THOMAS F. MORAN.

Public International Unions. By PAUL S. REINSCH. (Boston: Ginn and Company, 1911. Pp. 189.)

In his recent book on Public International Unions which he has described as "an introduction" to the study of some new develop-